

## Permit Fact Sheet

### General Information

Permit Number:	WI-0059242-05-0
Permittee Name:	Hamlin Valley Farms Inc
Mailing Address:	N49128 County Road V
City/State/Zip:	Strum, WI 54770
Discharge Location:	Main Farm: N49128 County Road V, Strum, WI (NE ¼ of the NE ¼ Sec. 23 T24N R9W) Danny's Farm: N49176 County Road V, Strum, WI (NE ¼ of the NW ¼ Sec. 24 T24N R9W) Back Farm: N49037 County Road V, Strum, WI (SE ¼ of the SE ¼ Sec. 15 T24N R9W)
Receiving Water:	unnamed tributaries of the Buffalo River within the Upper Buffalo River Watershed and groundwaters of the state
Stream Classification:	Buffalo River – 303(d) Listed Impaired Water

Animal Units					
Animal Type	Current AU		Proposed AU (Note: If all zeroes, expansions are not expected during permit term)		
	Mixed	Individual	Mixed	Individual	Date of Proposed Expansion
Dairy Calves (under 400 lbs.)	90	0	0	0	
Milking and Dry Cows	3360	3432	0	0	
Heifers (400 lbs. to 800 lbs.)	300	500	0	0	
Heifers (800 lbs. to 1200 lbs.)	990	900	0	0	
Total	4740	3432	0	0	

### Facility Description

Hamlin Valley Farms Inc is an existing Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) owned and operated by Jordan Gullicksrud. Hamlin Valley Inc currently has 4,740 animal units (2,400 milking & dry cows, 1,400 heifers, and 450 calves) and does not have any plans to increase animal unit numbers during the next five-year permit term. Based on the current herd size and available waste storage facilities, Hamlin Valley Inc has approximately 297 days of liquid manure storage. Hamlin Valley Inc currently has 4,721 acres available for land application of manure and process wastewater, of which 4,435 are spreadable acres. Of the total acreage, 2,050.6 are owned and 2,670.4 are controlled through contracts, rental agreements, leases or are under manure agreements.

### Substantial Compliance Determination

**HAMLIN VALLEY FARMS INC IS IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE PERMIT** (a summary of permit violations/noncompliance from the previous permit term are outlined below)

**1. Notice of Violation (NOV) – August 8, 2018:** *Discharges of pollutants from the production area to navigable waters.*

- July 5, 2018 – Department responds to reports of a suspected discharge and determines that Hamlin Valley Farms Inc has recurring discharges of leachate and feed storage runoff from the main farm to navigable waters
- August 8, 2018 – Department issues a NOV to Hamlin Valley Farms Inc (enforcement conference between the Department and Hamlin Valley Farms Inc occurred on August 23, 2018)
- November 11, 2018 – Plans and specifications for a new feed storage runoff control system at the main farm are submitted on behalf on Hamlin Valley Farms Inc (plans approved by the Department on February 4, 2019)
- October 2019 – Construction of approved feed storage runoff control system complete (post construction documentation submitted to the Department on November 25, 2019)
- October 15, 2019 – NOV is closed out

**2. Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) Noncompliance**

- Based on the annual NMP updates submitted on behalf of Hamlin Valley Farms Inc during the previous permit term, a considerable amount of overapplications of nutrients occurred between 2017 and 2020. Also, the operation had not been conducting manure and process wastewater sampling at the frequency required by the permit for the land application activities that took place between 2017 and 2020. However, further compliance issues were not found for future applications planned within the operation's five-year NMP for the upcoming permit term. Therefore, outstanding NMP compliance issues from the previous permit term do not influence permit reissuance and will be addressed through the Department's stepped enforcement process.

Sample Point Designation For Animal Waste		
Sample Point Number	Sample Point Location, WasteType/sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)	
001	WSF 1 (Old Pit) - Sample Point 001 is for liquid waste storage facility one (WSF 1) at the main farm. WSF 1 is a concrete lined waste storage facility that was constructed around 1995 with an approximate maximum operating level capacity of 5,595,107 gallons. This storage accepts sand separated liquid manure and process wastewater generated within the freestall barns and milking parlor. An engineering evaluation of WSF 1 shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
002	Above Ground Steel Tank - Sample Point 002 is for the steel above ground liquid waste storage tank at the main farm. The steel tank was installed around 1995 and has an approximate maximum operating level capacity of 662,744 gallons. Use of this storage has been discontinued since around 2010 but will now be used as an additional storage for leachate and feed storage runoff generated at the main farm. An engineering evaluation of the steel above ground storage tank shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
003	WSF 2 (East Pit) - Sample Point 003 is for liquid waste storage facility two (WSF 2) at the main farm. WSF 2 was initially constructed in 2005 with an HDPE liner. Plans and specifications to expand WSF 2 and replace the existing liner with concrete were approved by the Department in 2017 and construction was completed the same year. Following the expansion and liner replacement, WSF 2 now has an approximate maximum operating level capacity of 9,814,264 gallons. This storage accepts sand separated liquid manure and process wastewater generated within the freestall barns and milking parlor and liquid manure generated within the calf barn. WSF 2 also accepts leachate and feed storage runoff captured in the feed storage runoff collection basin.	
004	Main Farm Misc. Solids - Sample Point 004 is for miscellaneous sources of solid manure generated at the	

Sample Point Designation For Animal Waste		
Sample Point Number	Sample Point Location, WasteType/sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)	
	main farm (solid calf/heifer manure, manure laden bedding, recycled sand, waste feed, etc.) Representative samples shall be taken for each source that is directly land applied.	
005	WSF 3 (West Pit) - Sample Point 005 is for liquid waste storage facility three (WSF 3) at the main farm. Plans and specifications for WSF 3 were approved by the Department in 2012 and construction was completed the same year. WSF 3 is a concrete lined waste storage facility with an approximate maximum operating level capacity of 9,102,897 gallons. This storage primarily accepts sand separated liquid manure and process wastewater generated within the freestall barns and milking and parlor. WSF 3 can also accept the contents stored within WSF 2 as needed.	
006	Feed Storage Runoff Basin - Sample Point 006 is for the concrete feed storage runoff collection basin at the main farm. Plans and specifications for the runoff basin were approved by the Department in 2019 and construction was completed the same year. The runoff basin has an approximate maximum operating level capacity of 124,276 gallons and leachate and feed storage runoff captured within the basin is transferred to WSF 2.	
007	Digester Facility - Sample Point 007 is for the proposed digester facility to be constructed at the main farm. Plans and specifications for the digester facility shall be submitted to the Department for approval according to Permit Section 3.2.10 prior to construction. Construction of the proposed digester facility shall also be completed in accordance with Permit Section 3.2.10 and Department approval. Post construction documentation shall be submitted to the Department within 60 days of construction of the digester facility being completed.	
008	WSF 4 (Danny's Pit) - Sample Point 008 is for liquid waste storage facility four (WSF 4) at Danny's farm. WSF 4 was constructed in 2011 with a clay liner and a concrete floor. This storage has an approximate maximum operating level capacity of 3,682,034 gallons and accepts liquid manure generated within the freestall barn. An engineering evaluation of WSF 4 and associated transfer system shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
009	Danny's Farm Misc. Solids - Sample Point 009 is for miscellaneous sources of solid manure generated at Danny's farm (solid calf/heifer manure, manure laden bedding, recycled sand, waste feed, etc.) Representative samples shall be taken for each source that is directly land applied.	
010	Back Farm Solids Stacking Area - Sample Point 010 is for the solid manure stacking area at the back farm and other miscellaneous sources of solid manure generated at the back farm (solid calf/heifer manure, manure laden bedding, recycled sand, waste feed, etc.) Representative samples shall be taken for each source that is directly land applied. The stacking area was formerly an outdoor concrete animal lot that is now utilized to store solid manure when conditions do not allow for direct land application. An engineering evaluation of the solid manure stacking area and associated runoff control system shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
011	Main Farm Feed Storage Area & Runoff Controls - Sample Point 011 is for visual monitoring and inspection of the feed storage area and associated runoff control system at the main farm. The feed storage area was initially constructed around 1995 with several expansions taking place over time. Plans and specifications for the feed storage runoff control system were approved by the Department in 2019 and construction was completed the same year. Solid manure is occasionally stored on a portion of the feed storage area when conditions do not allow for direct land application. Proper operation and maintenance are required to ensure discharges meet permit requirements. Weekly inspections are required and shall be recorded according to the monitoring and inspection program. An engineering evaluation of the existing	

Sample Point Designation For Animal Waste		
Sample Point Number	Sample Point Location, WasteType/sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)	
	feed storage area/solid manure stacking area shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
012	Danny's Farm Feed Storage Area & Runoff Controls - Sample Point 012 is for visual monitoring and inspection of the feed storage area and associated runoff control system at Danny's farm. The feed storage area was constructed around 2008 and is also used to store solid manure on occasion. Proper operation and maintenance are required to ensure discharges meet permit requirements. Weekly inspections are required and shall be recorded according to the monitoring and inspection program. An engineering evaluation of the existing feed storage area/solid manure stacking area and associated runoff control system shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
013	Danny's Farm Outdoor Lots & Runoff Controls - Sample Point 013 is for visual monitoring and inspection of the two outdoor concrete animal lots and associated runoff control systems at Danny's farm. Proper operation and maintenance are required to ensure discharges meet permit requirements. Weekly inspections are required and shall be recorded according to the monitoring and inspection program. An engineering evaluation of each outdoor animal lot and the associated runoff control systems shall be submitted according to the Schedules section of the permit.	
014	Storm Water Runoff Controls - Sample Point 014 is for visual monitoring and inspection of all production site storm water conveyances systems at each site. This includes roof gutters and downspout structures, drainage systems, storm water ponds, grassed waterways and other diversion systems that transport uncontaminated storm water. Proper operation and maintenance are required to keep uncontaminated runoff diverted away from manure and process wastewater handling systems. Weekly inspections are required and shall be recorded according to the monitoring and inspection program.	

# 1 Livestock Operations - Proposed Operation and Management

## Production Area Discharge Limitations

Beginning on the effective date of the permit, the permittee may not discharge pollutants from the operation's production area (e.g., manure storage areas, outdoor animal lots, composting and leachate containment systems, milking center wastewater treatment/containment systems, raw material storage areas) to navigable waters, except in the event a 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event (or greater) causes the discharge from a structure which is properly designed and maintained to contain a 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event for this location as determined under s. NR 243.04. If an allowable discharge occurs from the production area, state water quality standards may not be exceeded.

## Runoff Control

The permit requires control of contaminated runoff from all elements of the production area to prevent a discharge of pollutants to navigable waters in accordance with the Production Area Discharge Limitations and to comply with surface water quality standards and groundwater standards. Beginning on the effective date of this permit, (if needed) interim measures shall be implemented to prevent discharges of pollutants to navigable waters. In addition, permanent runoff control system(s) shall be designed, operated and maintained in accordance with the requirements found in USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code. If any upgrading or modifications to runoff controls are necessary, formal engineering plans and specifications must be submitted to the Department for approval.



## **Manure and Process Wastewater Storage**

The permit requires the operation to have adequate storage for manure and process wastewater and that storage or containment facilities are designed, operated, and maintained to prevent overflows and discharges to waters of the state. In order to prevent overflows, the permittee must maintain levels of materials in liquid storage or containment facilities at or below certain levels including a one-foot margin of safety that can never be exceeded. If any upgrading or modifications to the storage facilities are necessary, formal engineering plans and specifications must be submitted to the Department for approval.

The permittee currently has approximately 297 days of storage for liquid manure. The permittee must maintain 180 days of storage unless temporary reductions in required storage are approved by the Department.

## **Ancillary Service and Storage Areas**

The permittee shall take preventative maintenance actions and conduct visual inspections to minimize pollutant discharges from areas of the operation that are not part of the production area or land application areas. These areas are called ancillary service and storage areas and include access roads, shipping and receiving areas, maintenance areas, refuse piles and CAFO outdoor vegetated areas.

## **Nutrient Management**

With 4,740 animal units (2,400 milking & dry cows, 1,400 heifers, 450 calves), it is estimated that approximately 35,010,800 gallons and 1,433 tons of manure and process wastewater will be produced per year. The permittee owns *approximately* 2,050.6 acres of cropland and rents about 2,670.4 acres. Of the 4,721 total acreage, 4,436 are spreadable acres. Given the rotation commonly used by the permittee, approximately 3,000 to 3,200 acres are planned to receive manure and process wastewater on an annual basis. The permit requires all landspreading of manure and process wastewater be completed in accordance with an approved nutrient management plan. The permit will require sampling and analysis of manure and process wastewater that will be landspread. Landspreading rates must be adjusted based on sample analysis. The permit requires the permittee to maintain a daily log that documents landspreading activities. The permit also requires the submittal of an annual report that summarizes all landspreading activities. Plans must be updated annually to reflect cropping plans and other operational changes. Among the requirements, the plans must include detailed landspreading information including field by field nutrient budgets.

The permittee is required to implement a number of practices to address potential water quality impacts associated with the land application of manure and process wastewater. Among the permit conditions are restrictions on manure ponding, restrictions on runoff of manure and process wastewater from cropped fields, and setbacks from wells and direct conduits to groundwater (e.g., sinkholes, fractured bedrock at the surface). In addition, the permittee must implement a phosphorus based nutrient management plan that addresses phosphorus delivery to surface waters by basing manure and process wastewater applications on soil test phosphorus levels or the Wisconsin Phosphorus index. Additional phosphorus application restrictions apply to fields that are high in soil test phosphorus (>100 ppm).

The permittee must also implement conservation practices when applying manure near navigable waters and their conduits, referred to as the Surface Water Quality Management Area (SWQMA). These practices include a 100-foot setback from navigable waters and their conduits, a 35-foot vegetated buffer adjacent to the navigable water or conduit, or a practice that provides equivalent pollutant reductions equivalent to or better than the 100-foot setback. In addition, the permittee must comply with restrictions on land application of manure and process wastewater on frozen or snow-covered ground. Included in these restrictions is a prohibition on surface applications of solid manure ( $\geq 12\%$  solids) on frozen or snow-covered ground during February and March.

## **Monitoring and Sampling Requirements**

The permittee must submit a monitoring and inspection program that outlines how the permittee will conduct self-inspections to determine compliance with permit conditions. These self-inspections include visual inspections of water

lines, diversion devices, storage and containment structures and other parts of the production area. The permit requires periodic inspections and calibrations of landspreading equipment. The permittee must take corrective actions to problems identified inspections or otherwise notify the Department. Samples of manure, process wastewater and soils receiving land applied materials from the operation must also be collected and analyzed.

### Sampling Points

The permit identifies the different sources of land applied materials (e.g., manure storage facilities, milking centers, egg-washing facilities) as “Sampling Points.” For these Sampling Points, the permittee is required to sample and analyze the different sources for nutrients and other parameters which serve as the basis for determining rates of application for these materials. Other areas are also identified as Sampling Points as a means of identifying them as areas requiring action by the permittee, such as an upgrade or evaluation of a certain system or structure (e.g., runoff control systems), even though sampling is not actually required.

### **Sample Point Number: 001- WSF 1 (Old Pit) ; 002- Above Ground Steel Tank; 003- WSF 2 (East Pit); 005- WSF 3 (West Pit); 006- Feed Storage Runoff Basin; 007- Digester Facility; 008- WSF 4 (Danny's Pit)**

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Nitrogen, Total		lb/1000gal	2/Month	Grab	
Nitrogen, Available		lb/1000gal	2/Month	Calculated	
Phosphorus, Total		lb/1000gal	2/Month	Grab	
Phosphorus, Available		lb/1000gal	2/Month	Calculated	
Solids, Total		Percent	2/Month	Grab	

#### 1.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit

WSF 1 (Old Pit) at the main farm was included in the operation’s first three permits as sample point 001. However, WSF 3 (West Pit) at the main farm was included in the operation’s previous (fourth) permit as sample point 001 and WSF 1 (Old Pit) was changed to sample point 005. To maintain consistency across previous permit terms, WSF 1 (Old Pit) has been changed back to sample point 001 and WSF 3 (West Pit) has been changed to sample point 005.

The above ground steel tank at the main farm was included in the operation’s first permit as sample point 002 and in the operation’s second permit sample point 002 was changed to miscellaneous sources of solid manure. In the operation’s third permit, the steel above ground tank was not included, miscellaneous sources of solid manure were changed to sample point 004, and sample point 002 was removed from the permit altogether. In the operation’s previous (fourth) permit the steel above ground tank was brought back into the permit as sample point 006, miscellaneous sources of solid manure were included again as sample point 004, and sample point 002 was still not included. To maintain consistency across previous permit terms, the steel above ground tank has been changed back to sample point 002, miscellaneous sources of solid manure for the main farm will still be included as sample 004, and the runoff collection basin at the main farm will be added to the permit as sample point 006.

A digester facility is proposed to be constructed at the main farm, possibly during the upcoming permit term, and has been added to the permit as sample point 007. Danny’s farm has been added as satellite operation under the permit and therefore WSF 4 (Danny’s Pit) at Danny’s farm has also been added to the permit as sample point 008.

**Sample Point Number: 004- Main Farm Misc. Solids; 009- Danny's Farm Misc. Solids; 010- Back Farm Solids Stacking Area**

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Nitrogen, Total		lbs/ton	Quarterly	Grab	
Nitrogen, Available		lbs/ton	Quarterly	Calculated	
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/ton	Quarterly	Grab	
Phosphorus, Available		lbs/ton	Quarterly	Calculated	
Solids, Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	

### 1.1.2 Changes from Previous Permit

Danny's farm and the back farm have been added as satellite operations under the permit. Therefore, miscellaneous sources of solid manure generated at Danny's farm have been added to the permit as sample point 009 and the solid manure stacking area and other miscellaneous sources of solid manure at the back farm have been added to the permit as sample point 010.

**Sample Point Number: 011- Main Farm FSA & Runoff Control; 012- Danny's FSA & Runoff Control; 013- Danny's Lots & Runoff Control , and 014- Storm Water Controls**

### 1.1.3 Changes from Previous Permit

To better represent the entire production area at the main farm, the main farm feed storage area and associated runoff control system have been added to the permit as sample point 011.

Danny's farm has been added as a satellite operation under the permit and therefore the feed storage area and associated runoff control system at Danny's farm have been added to the permit as sample point 012 and the outdoor lots and associated runoff control systems at Danny's farm have been added to the permit as sample point 013.

To better represent the entire production area at each site under the permit, the storm water runoff control systems for each site have also been added to the permit as sample point 014.

## 2 Schedules

### 2.1 Emergency Response Plan

Required Action	Due Date
Develop Emergency Response Plan: Develop a written Emergency Response Plan within 30 days of permit coverage, available to the Department upon request.	05/01/2022

### 2.2 Monitoring & Inspection Program

Use of the department's monitoring and inspection program template is encouraged, but optional.

Required Action	Due Date
Proposed Monitoring and Inspection Program: Consistent with the monitoring and sampling requirements subsection, the permittee shall update and submit a proposed monitoring and inspection program within 60 days of the effective date of this permit.	05/31/2022

## 2.3 Manure Storage Facility - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to WSF 1 (Old Pit) at the main farm (sample point 001)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing manure storage facility's ability to meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Manure and Process Wastewater Storage subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the manure storage facility in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.4 Manure Storage Facility - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to the above ground steel tank at the main farm (sample point 002)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing manure storage facility's ability to meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Manure and Process Wastewater Storage subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the manure storage facility in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.5 Manure Storage Facility - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to WSF 4 (Danny's Pit) at Danny's farm (sample point 008)

Required Action	Due Date
-----------------	----------

Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing manure storage facility's ability to meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Manure and Process Wastewater Storage subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the manure storage facility in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.6 Manure Storage Facility & Runoff Control System - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to the solid manure stacking area and associated runoff control system at the back farm (sample point 010)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing manure storage facility and associated runoff control system and their ability to meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Manure and Process Wastewater Storage subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the manure storage facility and associated runoff control system in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.7 Feed Storage Area & Manure Storage Facility - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to the feed storage area and the portion of the feed storage utilized as a solid manure stacking area at the main farm (sample point 011)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing feed storage area, including its use as a manure storage facility, and its ability to meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Manure and Process Wastewater Storage subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the feed storage, area and its use as a manure storage facility, in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by	12/01/2023

the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	
---	--

## 2.8 Feed Storage Area & Manure Storage Facility - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to the feed storage area and the portion of the feed storage utilized as a solid manure stacking area at Danny's farm (sample point 012)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing feed storage area, including its use as a manure storage facility, and its ability to meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Manure and Process Wastewater Storage subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the feed storage area, and its use as a manure storage facility, in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.9 Runoff Control System - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to the feed storage area runoff control system at Danny's farm (sample point 012)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing feed storage runoff control system and its adequacy to permanently meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Runoff Control subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm. Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	07/01/2022
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the feed storage runoff control system in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.10 Runoff Control System - Engineering Evaluation

Applicable to the outdoor animal lots and the associated runoff control system at Danny's farm (sample point 013)

Required Action	Due Date
Engineering Evaluation: Submit a written report evaluating the existing outdoor animal lots and associated runoff control systems and their adequacy to permanently meet the conditions in the Production Area Discharge Limitations and Runoff Control subsections and s. NR 243.15, Wis. Adm.	07/01/2022

Code. (See Standard Requirements for report details.)	
Plans and Specifications: Submit plans and specifications for Department review and approval to permanently correct any adverse conditions identified as part of the engineering evaluation for the runoff control system in accordance with Chapter 281.41, Wis. Stats., and Chapter NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code.	03/01/2023
Corrections and Post Construction Documentation: Complete construction of improvements to permanently correct any adverse conditions in concurrence with and approval by the Department, by the specified Date Due. Submit post construction documentation within 60 days of completion of the project.	12/01/2023

## 2.11 Annual Reports

Submit annual reports by January 31 of each year in accordance with the annual reports subsection in standard requirements.

Required Action	Due Date
Submit Annual Report #1: To include monitoring and inspection results from the previous 12 months, consistent with the requirements of department form 3400-025E.	01/31/2023
Submit Annual Report #2: To include monitoring and inspection results from the previous 12 months, consistent with the requirements of department form 3400-025E.	01/31/2024
Submit Annual Report #3: To include monitoring and inspection results from the previous 12 months, consistent with the requirements of department form 3400-025E.	01/31/2025
Submit Annual Report #4: To include monitoring and inspection results from the previous 12 months, consistent with the requirements of department form 3400-025E.	01/31/2026
Submit Annual Report #5: To include monitoring and inspection results from the previous 12 months, consistent with the requirements of department form 3400-025E.	01/31/2027
Ongoing Annual Reports: Continue to submit Annual Reports until permit reissuance has been completed.	

## 2.12 Nutrient Management Plan

Submit annual nutrient management plan (NMP) updates by March 31 of each year. Note, in addition to annual NMP updates, submit NMP amendments and substantial revisions to the department for written approval prior to implementation of any changes to the NMP.

Required Action	Due Date
Submit NMP Update #1: To include actual cropping, tillage, and nutrient application data from the previous calendar or crop year, consistent with the requirements of department for 3400-025D.	03/31/2023
Submit NMP Update #2: To include actual cropping, tillage, and nutrient application data from the previous calendar or crop year, consistent with the requirements of department for 3400-025D.	03/31/2024
Submit NMP Update #3: To include actual cropping, tillage, and nutrient application data from the previous calendar or crop year, consistent with the requirements of department for 3400-025D.	03/31/2025
Submit NMP Update #4: To include actual cropping, tillage, and nutrient application data from the previous calendar or crop year, consistent with the requirements of department for 3400-025D.	03/31/2026

Submit NMP Update #5: To include actual cropping, tillage, and nutrient application data from the previous calendar or crop year, consistent with the requirements of department for 3400-025D.	03/31/2027
Ongoing Management Plan Annual Updates: Continue to submit Annual Updates to the Nutrient Management Plan until permit reissuance has been completed.	

## 2.13 Submit Permit Reissuance Application

Required Action	Due Date
Reissuance Application: Submit a complete permit reissuance application 180 days prior to permit expiration.	10/02/2026

## 2.14 Explanation of Schedules

Due to its age, an engineering evaluation of WSF 1 (Old Pit) at the main farm has been included in the schedules section of the permit. Also, the operation would like to continue use of the above ground steel tank at the main farm for additional storage of leachate and feed storage runoff. Therefore, an engineering evaluation of the above ground steel tank at the main farm has been included in the schedules section of the permit due to its age and the extended period it has been out of operation. An engineering evaluation has also been included for the feed storage area at the main farm and its occasional use as a solid manure stacking area.

Since Danny's farm has been added as a satellite operation to the permit, an engineering evaluation of the feed storage area at Danny's farm, including its occasional use as a solid manure stacking area has been included in the schedules section of the permit. An engineering evaluation of the feed storage runoff control system at Danny's farm and of the outdoor animals lots and associated runoff control system have also been included in the schedules section of the permit.

Since the back farm has been added as a satellite operation to the permit, an engineering evaluation of the solid manure stacking area has also been included in the schedules section of the permit.

## Attachments:

Sample Point Maps

Nutrient Management Plan Conditional Approval

180 Day Liquid Manure Storage Review Letter

October 8, 2019 Inspection Report

Public Notice

## Proposed Expiration Date:

March 31, 2027

**Prepared By: Clare Freix, Agricultural Runoff Management Specialist**

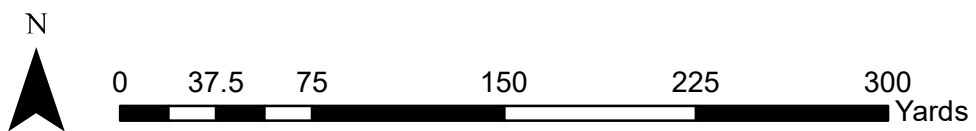
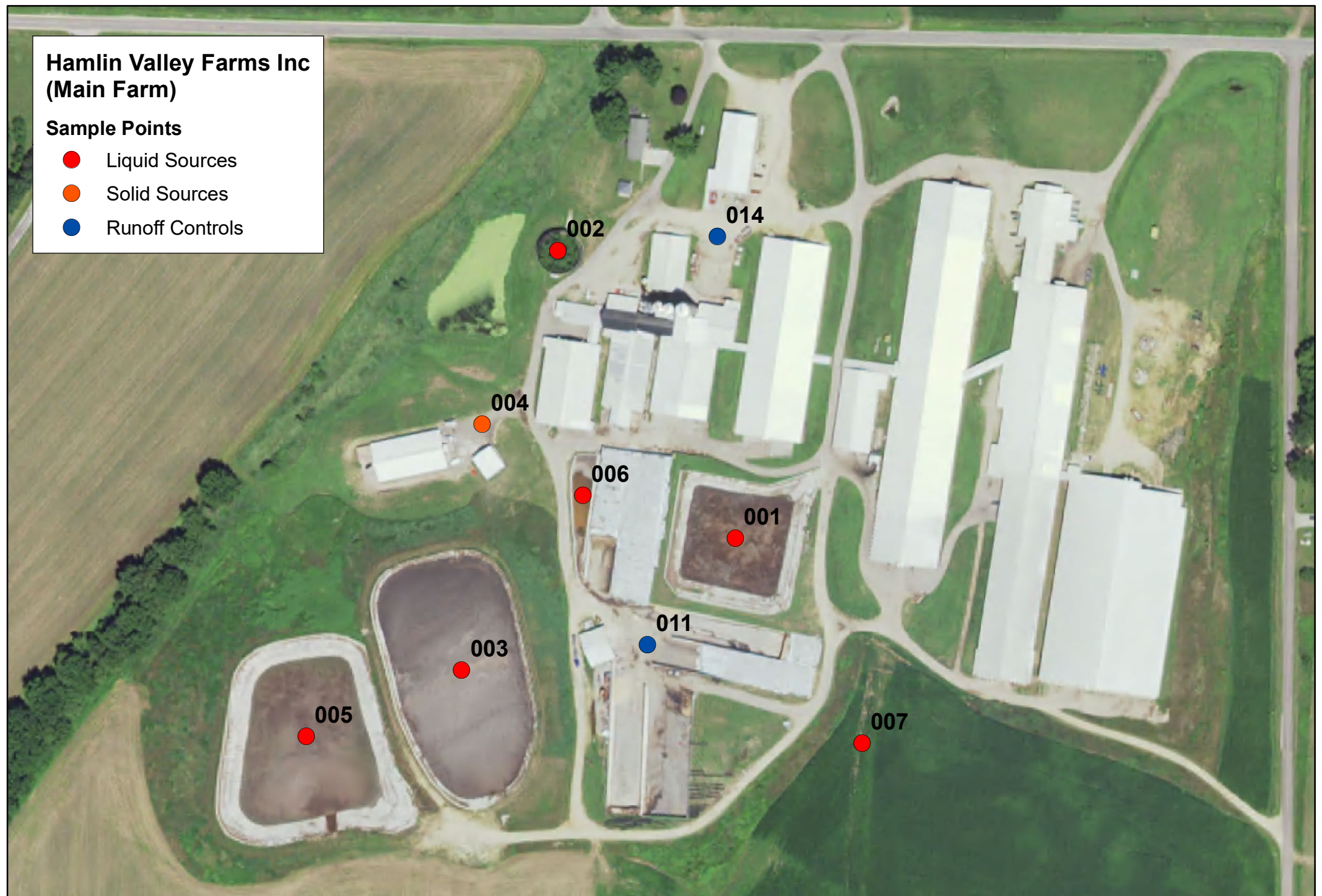
**Date: January 25, 2022**



# Hamlin Valley Farms Inc (Main Farm)

## Sample Points

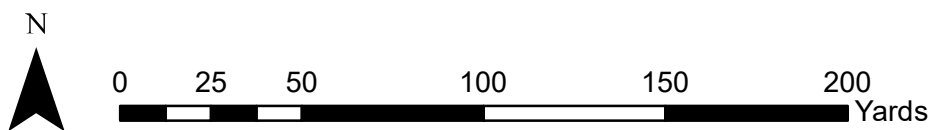
- Liquid Sources
- Solid Sources
- Runoff Controls



# Hamlin Valley Farms Inc (Danny's Farm)

## Sample Points

- Liquid Sources
- Solid Sources
- Runoff Controls

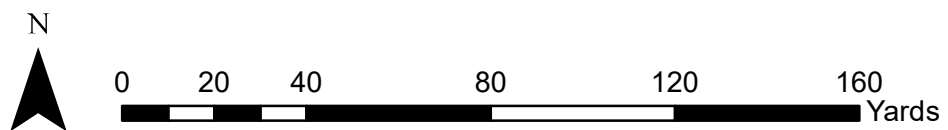




## Hamlin Valley Farms Inc (Back Farm)

### Sample Points

- Liquid Sources
- Solid Sources
- Runoff Controls





January 11, 2022

Trempealeau County  
Approval

Mark Gullicksrud  
Hamlin Valley Farms Inc  
N49128 Cty Rd V  
Strum, WI 54770

SUBJECT: Conditional Approval of Hamlin Valley Farms Inc's Nutrient Management Plan, WPDES Permit No. 0059242-05

Dear Mr. Gullicksrud:

After completing a review of Hamlin Valley Farms Inc's 2021-2025 Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Department) is providing conditional approval that it is consistent with Nutrient Management Requirements in s. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code. This part of your WPDES permit application is now ready for the public notice and comment process as required by Ch. 283 Stats.

Before applying manure onto approved fields each season, the Department recommends Hamlin Valley Farms Inc review the NMP with those individuals involved with manure applications to ensure all remain familiar with the approved manure spreading protocol, spreading maps, field and map verification, record keeping requirements, and all the conditions of this approval. Specifically, some fields in Hamlin Valley Farms Inc may have:

- Soils that may have bedrock or groundwater within 24 inches of surface,
- Multiple setback areas due to streams, conduits to streams, grassed waterways, wetlands or wells, and
- Evidence of possible soil erosion/flow channels. Note: road ditches or other man made channels may be considered flow channels or conduits to navigable water and may be subject to a SWQMA and setback.

Reviewing the NMP and checking fields for these features and soil conditions prior to manure applications will help Hamlin Valley Farms Inc maintain compliance with their WPDES permit and Ch. NR 243 requirements.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

The Department confirms that:

1. A current dairy herd size of 4,740 animal units (2,400 milking & dry cows, 1,400 heifers, and 450 calves). Currently there are no planned expansions in the next permit term.
2. Manure generation and spreading records indicate your herd will annually generate approximately 35,010,800 gallons of manure and process wastewater and 1,433 tons of solid manure in the first year of the permit term.
3. The use of application restriction options 1 and 5 within surface water quality management areas.
4. The use of phosphorus delivery method P Index.
5. That Hamlin Valley Farms Inc currently has 4,721 acres (2,050.6 owned and 2,670.4 controlled through contracts, rental agreements or leases, or under manure agreements) of which 4,435 are spreadable acres.
6. That some fields included in the NMP are directly adjacent to or have high potential to deliver nutrients and sediment to Buffalo River (Total Phosphorus).
7. That no fields are directly adjacent to or have high potential to deliver nutrients and sediment to outstanding/exceptional waters.
8. That no fields are tiled.

9. That all fields will be checked for the following features prior to/during manure or process wastewater applications: soil areas with possible shallow groundwater (i.e., within 24 inches of surface) at the time of manure application; required setbacks associated with wells, navigable waters, conduits to navigable waters, grassed waterways, wetlands, possible soil erosion/flow channels.
10. That surface applications of manure will not be completed when precipitation capable of producing runoff is forecasted within 24 hours of the time of planned application.

### **CONDITIONAL NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL**

The Department hereby approves the 2021-2025 Hamlin Valley Farms Inc's Nutrient Management Plan subject to the following conditions and the applicable requirements of Ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code:

#### **FIELD AND MANURE MANAGEMENT**

1. Fields not included in the NMP and new fields shall not receive manure or process wastewater applications until they have been properly soil sampled, entered into Snap Plus, evaluated for their nutrient needs, and approved by the Department.
2. The following fields are prohibited from receiving applications of manure or process wastewater:
 

• BB1 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• BB3 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• BI2 (P2O5 Target Balance)
• BI5 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• C08 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• GS1 – North (P2O5 Target Balance)
• GU2 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• GU3 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• GU4 (P2O5 Target Balance)
• JB1 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• JB3 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• JB4 (P2O5 Target Balance)
• JB5 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• MA3 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• MD07 (P2O5 Target Balance)
• N01 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• N04 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• N13 (P2O5 Target Balance)
• SM6 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• U04 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• U11 (P2O5 Target Balance)
• V1 (P2O5 Target Balance)	• BG10 (Old Soil Tests)	

If Hamlin Valley Farms Inc's wishes to use these fields for applications of manure or process wastewater all necessary information shall be submitted to the Department prior to application to demonstrate compliance with NR 243 and other applicable codes. Written Department approval amending this condition approval must be received prior to application.

3. If existing fields yield a soil test results equal to or greater than 200 ppm P, those fields would be prohibited from receiving manure or process wastewater applications, unless you obtain Department approval in accordance with NR 243.14(5)(b)2., Wis. Adm. Code.
4. Hamlin Valley Farms Inc's shall record daily manure applications by using form 3200-123A.
5. Hamlin Valley Farms Inc's shall annually submit a spreading report that summarizes the land application activities listed under NR 243.19(3)(c)5., Wis. Adm. Code by using form 3200-123.

#### **WINTER SPREADING**

6. Liquid manure applications during winter conditions, as defined by NR 243.14(7), Wis. Adm. Code, are prohibited with the exception of emergency applications.

7. The following field(s) are approved for winter spreading solid manure, emergency applications of liquid manure and frozen liquid manure:
- AL1
  - D2
  - DS04
  - JA1
  - DE08
  - VP2
  - BB4
  - DE09
  - GE2
  - MD04
  - DG7
  - AN28
  - BI1
  - DS01
  - GS1-South
  - SM4-7
  - IN2
  - E3
8. The following field(s) are denied for winter spreading solid manure, emergency applications of liquid manure and frozen liquid manure:
- BB1 (P2O5 Target Balance)
  - BB3 (P2O5 Target Balance)
  - GS1-North (P2O5 Target Balance)
  - DE06 (Inadequate Acres)
9. Winter spreading of solid and liquid manure may not occur during the “high risk runoff period” pursuant to s. NR 243.14(6)(c) and NR 243.14(7)(c), respectively.
10. Winter applications of liquid manure shall only occur under emergency situations, after notifying the Department and receiving verbal approval.
11. Liquid applications shall be limited to 3,500 gallons per acre or 30 lbs. P per acre, whichever is less, on slopes 2-6% and 7,000 gallons per acre or 60 lbs. P per acre, whichever is less, on slopes 0-2%. Winter applications of solid manure shall be limited to 60 lbs. P per acre.

#### HEADLAND STACKING

12. No headland stacking sites are approved.

#### MANURE & PROCESS WASTEWATER IRRIGATION

13. Irrigation of manure or process wastewater is prohibited.

#### SUBMITAL AND RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS

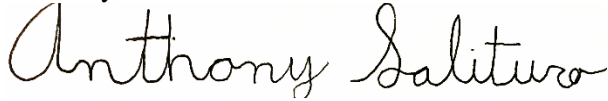
14. A copy of this conditional approval shall be included in all future annual Nutrient Management Plan Updates in addition to the NR 243 and NRCS 590 checklists.
15. The farm must submit any supporting evidence to justify to the Department why any applications of nutrients above UW recommendations that took place were necessary. Evidence should be submitted as part of the Nutrient management Plan Update.

This conditional approval does not limit the Department’s regulatory authority to require NMP revisions (based upon new information or manure irrigation research findings) or request additional information in order to confirm or ensure your farm operation remains in compliance with NR 243 and your WPDES permit conditions. If additional information, project changes or other circumstances indicate a possible need to modify this approval, the Department may ask you to provide further information relating to this activity.

Please keep in mind that approval by the Department of Natural Resources – Runoff Management Program does not relieve you of obligations to meet all other applicable federal, state or local permits, zoning and regulatory requirements.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, I can be reached at 608-444-2869 or [Anthony.Salituro@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Anthony.Salituro@Wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Salituro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anthony" and last name "Salituro" clearly legible.

Tony Salituro  
WDNR CAFO Intake Specialist  
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

cc: Clare Freix, WDNR Agricultural Runoff Specialist ([Clare.Freix@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Clare.Freix@Wisconsin.gov))  
Brad Johnson, WDNR Watershed Field Supervisor ([Bradley.Johnson@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Bradley.Johnson@Wisconsin.gov))  
Chris Clayton, WDNR Ag Runoff Section Chief ([Christopherr.Clayton@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Christopherr.Clayton@Wisconsin.gov))  
Aaron O'Rourke, Nutrient Management Program Coordinator ([Aaron.Orourke@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Aaron.Orourke@Wisconsin.gov))  
Ashley Scheel, WDNR CAFO NMP Reviewer ([Ashley.Scheel@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Ashley.Scheel@Wisconsin.gov))  
Michael Kornmann, Trempealeau County LCD ([Michael.kornmann@co.trempealeau.wi.us](mailto:Michael.kornmann@co.trempealeau.wi.us))  
Greg Leonard, Eau Claire County LCD ([greg.leonard@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:greg.leonard@co.eau-claire.wi.us))  
Kevin Flyte, Dairyland Labs ([kflyte@dairylandlabs.com](mailto:kflyte@dairylandlabs.com))  
File



November 4, 2021

FILE REF: R-2020-0090  
WPDES Permit #: WI-0059242

Mark Gullicksrud  
Hamlin Valley Farms Inc  
N49128 Cty Rd V  
Strum, WI 54770

Subject: Days of Storage Review for Hamlin Valley Farms Inc in Trempealeau County – NO  
ADDITIONAL ACTION REQUIRED

Dear Mr. Gullicksrud:

This letter is to inform you that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Department) has completed its review of the calculation of days of storage submitted under certification by David McDaniel, Auth Consulting & Associates, received on April 21, 2020.

The Department reviewed the submitted calculations in accordance with ss. NR 243.14(9) and NR 243.15(3)(i) to (k), Wis. Adm. Code. Under s. NR 243.17(3)(c), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee shall demonstrate compliance with the 180-day design storage capacity requirement at specified times. For the following liquid manure storage calculations, the Department has determined **no additional actions** on your part are required.

**Days of Available Liquid Waste Storage:** The submitted information states that Hamlin Valley Farms Inc has **297 days** of liquid waste storage based on the volumes listed in the table below with respect to s. NR 243.15(3)(i) to (k), Wis. Adm. Code. The current number of animal units provided for the calculation is **4,740 AU**. The liquid waste volumes are based on the NRCS spreadsheet and other estimated or calculated values. The liquid waste volumes are based upon a collection period of **365 days**.

Total Annual Liquid Waste Volume (NRCS Table Values)	
Liquids Collected/Stored	Annual Gallons
Manure and Bedding:	22,174,294
Parlor Wastewater	5,110,000
Total Feed Storage Leachate:	224,400
Total Feed Storage Runoff Collected <sup>(1)</sup> :	2,738,640
Total Feedlot Runoff Collected:	0
Net Precipitation on Storage Surfaces:	4,348,570
Other:	0
<b>Total Liquid Waste Stored Below the MOL</b>	<b>34,595,904</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> 6.5 inch collection over 137,840 ft<sup>2</sup>

Total Liquid Waste Storage (Gallons)						
Waste Storage	Total Vol. from Top to Bottom	-Solids Storage	-25-yr, 24-hr Precip on Storage	25-yr, 24-hr Collected Runoff	-Freeboard Vol.	Max Operating Level (MOL) Vol.
#1	Existing Slurrystore to be abandoned					
#2	6,257,218	0	203,109	0	459,003	5,595,107
#3	11,468,495	0	376,743	456,237	821,252	9,814,264
#4	10,267,676	0	366,730	0	798,049	9,102,897



#5	4,252,193	0	188,664	0	381,495	3,682,034
					<b>Total MOL Vol.</b>	<b>28,194,302</b>

Should you have any questions, please contact Ian Hansen or your regional CAFO Specialist.

### NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

If you believe that you have a right to challenge this decision, you should know that the Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review Department decisions must be filed. For judicial review of a decision pursuant to WIS. STAT. §§ 227.52 and 227.53, you have 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the Department, to file your petition with the appropriate circuit court and serve the petition on the Department. Such a petition for judicial review must name the Department of Natural Resources as the respondent.

To request a contested case hearing pursuant to WIS. STAT. § 227.42, you have 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the Department, to serve a petition for hearing on the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. All requests for contested case hearings must be made in accordance with WIS. ADMIN. CODE § NR 2.05(5), and served on the Secretary in accordance with WIS. ADMIN. CODE § NR 2.03. The filing of a request for a contested case hearing does not extend the 30-day period for filing a petition for judicial review.

#### STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Bernie Michaud, P.E.  
CAFO Engineer Supervisor  
Watershed Management Program



Ian Hansen, P.E.  
Water Resources Engineer  
Watershed Management Program

Email: Mark Gullicksrud; Hamlin Valley Farms Inc  
(715) 530-0118; plane1992@icloud.com

David McDaniel; Auth Consulting & Associates  
(715) 232-8490; dmcdaniel@authconsulting.com

Aaron O'Rourke; DNR, Eau Claire  
(715) 839-3775; aaron.orourke@wisconsin.gov

Matt Woodrow; DATCP  
(920) 427-8505; matthew.woodrow@wisconsin.gov

Ian Hansen; DNR, Northern Region  
(608) 400-2536; Ian.Hansen@wisconsin.gov

Clare E Freix; DNR, West Central Region  
(715) 492-4465; Clare.Freix@wisconsin.gov

Bradley A Johnson; DNR, West Central Region  
(715) 340-5281; BradleyA.Johnson@wisconsin.gov

Ashley Scheel; DNR, Central Office  
(608) 261-6419; ashley.scheel@wisconsin.gov

Ben Anderson; Trempealeau County  
(715) 538-1915; Ben.Anderson@co.trempealeau.wi.us

Tony Salituro; DNR, Central Office  
(608) 444-2869; Anthony.salituro@wisconsin.gov



October 14, 2019

WPDES Permit No. WI-0059242-04

Mark Gullicksrud  
Hamlin Valley Farms Inc.  
N49128 County Road V  
Strum, WI 54770

Subject: October 8, 2019 Reissuance Inspection Report

Dear Mr. Gullicksrud:

On October 8, 2019 the Department met with the representatives of Hamlin Valley Farms to conduct a full compliance inspection for permit reissuance. Department observations and a record of our conversations are included in the enclosed report. Based on Department observations all necessary actions have been completed to address the notice of violation issued to Hamlin Valley Farms on August 9, 2018 and no additional violations of your CAFO WPDES permit or NR 243 Wis. Admin Code were observed during the inspection.

The final pages of the report include a summary section identifying areas of concern as well as a list of actions items to be completed prior to permit reissuance. Please refer to the summary section for a list of all action items and associated deadlines.

Hamlin Valley Farms must submit a complete permit reissuance application through the Department's ePermitting System no later than **April 3, 2020**. A list of all materials required for a complete application have been provided within the enclosed report. If you have any questions regarding the final application materials or the ePermitting submittal process feel free to contact me (contact info below) or Tony Salituro at (608) 267-7150 or [Anthony.Salituro@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Anthony.Salituro@Wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

Clare Freix  
Agricultural Runoff Specialist  
Phone: (715) 492-4465  
Email: [Clare.Freix@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Clare.Freix@Wisconsin.gov)

Enc: October 8, 2019 Inspection Report

cc: Tony Salituro, Ben Uvaas, Bob Baczynski, David Hon – WDNR  
Ben Anderson, Kirstie Heidenreich – Trempealeau County Land Conservation  
Kevin Flyte, Abby Rotering – Dairyland Labs  
Curt Weisenbeck – Agronomic Consulting  
Dave McDaniel – Auth Consulting & Associates

## CAFO Compliance Report (October 14, 2019)

Inspection Date: October 8, 2019

Inspection Type: Permit Reissuance

Operation Name: Hamlin Valley Farms Inc

WPDES Permit No. 0059242-04

Operation Address: N49128 County Road V, Strum, WI 54770

On-Site Representative(s): Mark & Jordan Gullicksrud (Hamlin Valley Farms Inc), Kevin Flyte & Abby Rotering (Dairyland Labs), Curt Weisenbeck (Agronomic Consulting) and Dave McDaniel (Auth Consulting & Associates)

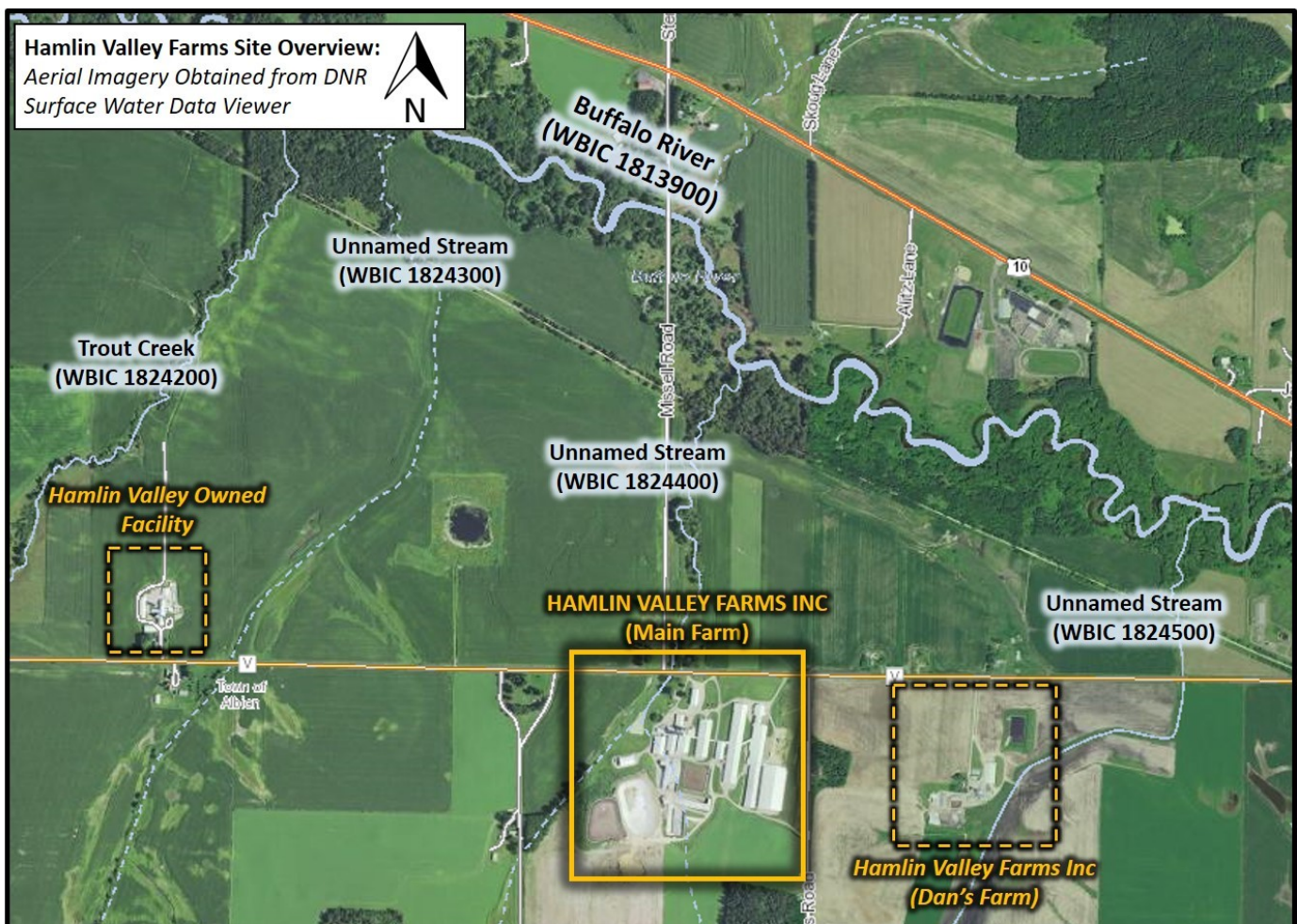
County Staff: Ben Anderson & Kirstie Heidenreich (Trempealeau County Land Conservation)

DNR Staff / Report Writer: Clare Freix, Agricultural Runoff Specialist

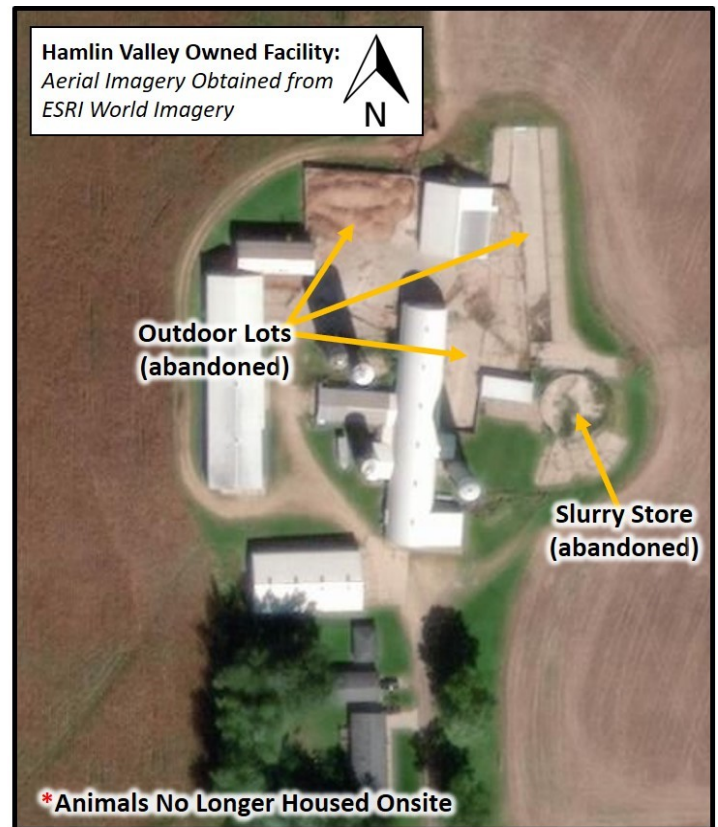
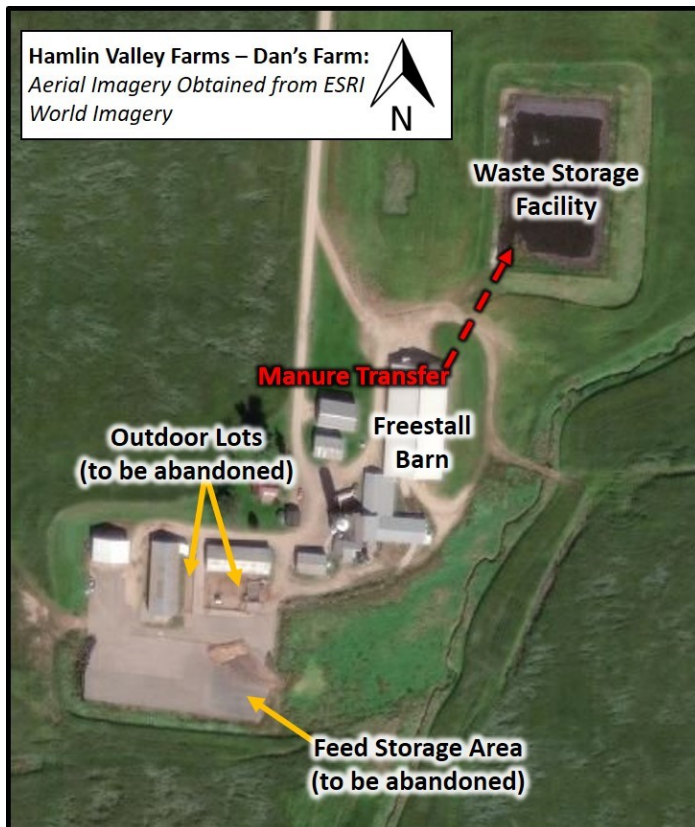
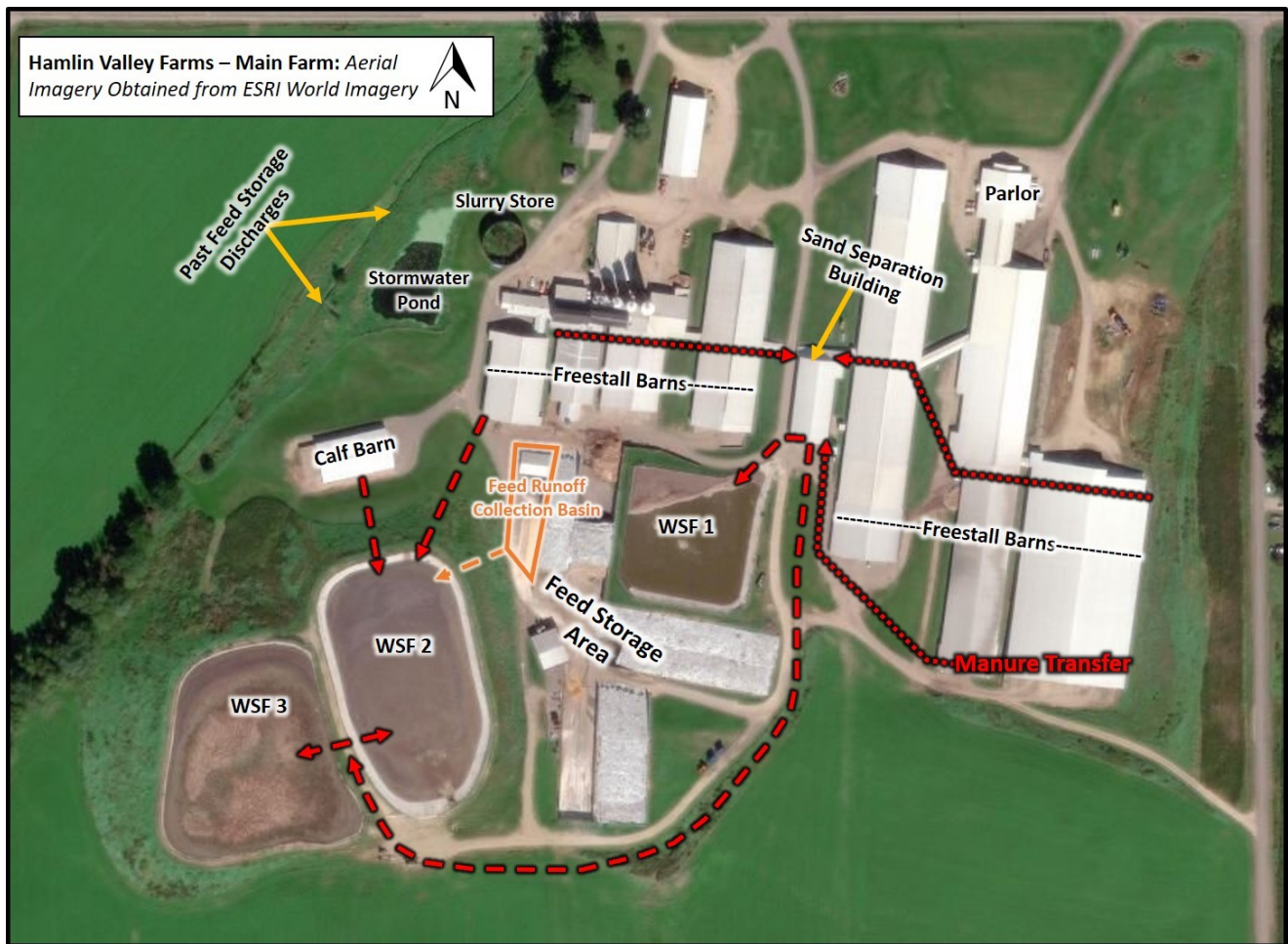


### **SITE OVERVIEW**

On October 8, 2019 at approximately 10 AM, Clare Freix met with Mark and Jordan Gullicksrud, Kevin Flyte, Abby Rotering, Curt Weisenbeck, Dave McDaniel, Ben Anderson and Kirstie Heidenreich at Hamlin Valley Farms. Hamlin Valley Farms was issued their first CAFO WPDES permit in 2000 and they are currently covered under their fourth permit. The farm's current permit was issued on October 1, 2015 and it is set to expire on September 30, 2020. The purpose of the site visit was to conduct a full compliance inspection for permit reissuance. Weather conditions were sunny with temperatures in the mid 60s. Approximately 0.5 inches of rain had fallen 72 hours prior to the inspection.







**Map (Bottom Left):** Dan’s farm is located directly east of the main farm and shares common ownership and a common land base with Hamlin Valley Farms. Dan’s farm will be added as a satellite operation in the reissued permit.

**Map (Bottom Right):** Hamlin Valley Farms also owns another facility located north west of the main farm. As long as no animals are housed on site, this facility will not be added as a satellite operation in the reissued permit.



## SITE OBSERVATIONS

### Feedlot Runoff

*Main Farm:* All animals at the main farm are housed within barns under a roof. The roofs on several of the freestall barns had collapsed the previous winter. Repairs to these barns are still in progress and were nearly completed at the time of the inspection.



**Photo 1 (Top Left):** Looking north at the calf barn located on the western edge of the production site. A temporary solid manure staging area is located at the western end of the barn. This area was clear of manure at the time of the inspection.



**Photo 2 (Top Right):** Looking north at the westernmost freestall barn. Liquid waste generated from this barn and the calf barn is pumped directly to waste storage. Liquid waste from all other barns on site is first pumped to the sand separation building.



**Photo 3 (Bottom Left):** Looking north at two of the freestall barns located on the eastern side of the production site. Both of these barns experienced roof damage the previous winter and significant repairs were completed.



**Photo 4 (Bottom Right):** Looking north east at area being used to stack scrap metal produced from the damage and associated repairs to the freestall barns. Hamlin Valley Farms has plans to recycle this scrap metal in the near future.

*Dan's Farm:* Majority of the animals at Dan's farm are housed in a single barn under a roof. Some of the animal housing facilities at Dan's farm and the other Hamlin Valley owned site are being used for temporary housing while repairs are made to the barns at the main farm. This includes two outdoor concrete lots at Dan's farm. Once repairs have been completed the outdoor lots at Dan's farm will be abandoned. A closure plan and documentation of the abandonment will need to be submitted to the Department prior to permit reissuance. If Hamlin Valley Farms decides not to abandon the outdoor lots at Dan's farm, then an evaluation of each lot and the associated runoff controls will be included in the schedules section of the reissued permit.



## Waste Storage Facilities

**Main Farm:** Hamlin Valley Farms utilizes three liquid manure waste storage facilities (WSF) at the main farm. WSF 1 is a concrete lined waste storage located at the center of the production site and accepts liquid waste that has been processed through the sand separation building. This facility has an approximate maximum operating level (MOL) capacity of 5 million gallons and it is estimated that it was constructed in 1997. Since the initial construction, Hamlin Valley Farms has vertically extended the existing concrete walls to increase storage capacity. Based on the age of the facility, an evaluation of WSF 1 will be included in the schedules section of the reissued permit.



**Photo 5 (Top Left):** Looking west across WSF 1. A safety fence can be seen around the perimeter but a permanent MOL and margin of safety (MOS) marker were not observed.



**Photo 6 (Top Right):** Looking north across WSF 1. The vertical extension of the existing concrete walls was observed around the entire facility.

WSF 2 is located directly west of the feed storage area and was initially constructed in 2005 with a HDPE liner. Plans and specifications were approved by the Department to replace the existing liner with concrete, which was completed in 2017. Following the replacement of the liner the facility has an MOL capacity of approximately 9 million gallons. WSF 2 accepts liquid waste from the westernmost freestall barn, the calf barn and now leachate and feed storage runoff. Liquid waste processed through the sand separation building can also be pumped to a connection pipe between WSF 2 and WSF 3.



**Photo 7 (Bottom Left):** Looking south across WSF 2. A safety fence can be seen around the entire perimeter. Hamlin Valley believes a permanent MOL marker is in place, but a permanent MOL and MOS marker were not observed.



**Photo 8 (Bottom Right):** Looking at leachate and feed storage runoff discharge outlet on the north east wall of WSF 2. Leachate and feed runoff was observed pooling below the outlet indicating the feed storage runoff transfer system is functional.



WSF 3 is a concrete lined waste storage located directly south of WSF 2. Plans and specifications for this waste storage were approved by the Department and it was constructed in 2012. WSF 3 has an approximate MOL capacity of 8 million gallons and primarily accepts liquid waste that has been processed through the sand separation building. Waste can also be pumped back and forth between WSF 2 and WSF 3 through a connection pipe.



**Photo 10 (Top Left):** Looking at manure transfer inlet within one of the freestall barns. Manure is manually scraped toward the inlet where it proceeds to the sand separation building.

**Photo 11 (Middle):** Looking at transfer lanes within the sand separation building. Recycled sand is set aside to be reused for bedding and liquid manure proceeds to either WSF 1 or toward the connection pipe between WSF 2 and WSF 3.



**Photo 12 (Bottom Left):** Looking south across WSF 3. A safety fence can be seen around the perimeter. Hamlin Valley believes a permanent MOL marker is in place, but a permanent MOL and MOS marker were not observed.

The main farm also has an above ground steel slurry store with an approximate MOL capacity of 750,000 gallons. Hamlin Valley Farms is considering use of the slurry store for separate storage of leachate and feed storage runoff. Use of the slurry store has been discontinued over the last several years and a significant amount of vegetation and trees were observed growing inside. Since the slurry store has not been properly maintained for storage purposes, an evaluation and any necessary upgrades must be completed before the slurry store can be used for storage of manure or process wastewater. Also, Hamlin Valley Farms should not include the slurry store capacity into their 180 day storage calculations until the facility can be used for storage.



**Photo 13 (Left):** Looking north at the stormwater pond (pictured left) and the above ground slurry store (pictured right). Significant Vegetation and several trees were observed growing within the slurry store. Vegetation growth can also be seen in photo 2.

Solid manure generated from the calf barn and the freestall barns on the western portion of the production site is scraped to the associated concrete staging area. Solid manure is directly land applied according to the farm's nutrient management plan when conditions allow. During the February and March manure prohibition period, or when conditions do not allow, solid manure is stored on a portion of the feed storage area. If Hamlin Valley Farms would like continue using the feed storage for solid manure, then an evaluation of the feed storage area for use as a solid manure storage facility will be included in the schedules section of the reissued permit. Otherwise Hamlin Valley Farms will need to request department approval for proposed headland stacking sites to be used when solid manure cannot be directly land applied.

**Photo 14 (Right):** Looking at manure staging area at the south end of one of the freestall barns. Solid manure produced in the freestall barns is temporarily staged here before it is land applied or stored on the feed storage. The staging area was primarily clear of manure at the time of the inspection.



**Dan's Farm:** Dan's farm has a single clay lined waste storage facility that was constructed in 2010. This waste storage accepts liquid manure generated in the freestall barn to the south. An evaluation of this waste storage facility and the associated waste transfer systems will be included in the schedules section of the reissued permit.



## Feed Storage Area Runoff

*Main Farm:* Hamlin Valley Farms utilizes a series of feed storage bunkers located toward the center of the production site. On August 9, 2018 Hamlin Valley Farms received a notice of violation for reoccurring feed storage area discharges to navigable waters. In order to address the notice of violation, Hamlin Valley Farms submitted plans and specifications on November 6, 2019 for upgraded feed storage runoff controls designed to contain all leachate and feed storage runoff produced. The Department approved the plans and specifications on February 4, 2019 and Freix confirmed on site that construction was completed October 7, 2019. Post construction documentation must be submitted to the Department by December 6, 2019.

Leachate and feed storage runoff flows toward the center of the feed storage area and is now directed into a concrete collection basin. The collection basin pump is operated on a float, and when activated, transfers the collected leachate and feed storage runoff to WSF 2.



**Photo 15 (Top Left):** Looking west along the southern edge of the center feed bunkers. This portion of the feed storage slopes to the west.

**Photo 16 (Middle Right):** Looking west between the center feed bunkers (pictured in photo 15) and the southern feed bunkers which slope to the north.



**Photo 17 (Middle Left):** Looking north at northern feed bunkers. This portion of the feed storage slopes to the south.



**Photo 18 (Bottom Right):** Looking east at the center of the entire feed storage area where the downslope end of each feed bunker meet.







**Photo 19 (Top Left):** Looking north at point where leachate and feed storage runoff flows from the center of the feed storage area to the concrete collection basin.



**Photo 20 (Top Right):** Looking north at contents of feed storage runoff collection basin. The amount of material observed in the basin indicates the new runoff control system is functional.



**Photo 21 (Bottom Left):** Looking east at transfer channel along the north edge of the northern feed bunkers. Leachate and feed runoff that does not flow to the center of the feed storage is directed to the collection basin through this channel.



**Photo 22 (Bottom Right):** Looking at the end of the transfer channel (pictured in photo 21) where leachate and feed runoff enters the collection basin.

*Dan's Farm:* Dan's farm has a small concrete feed pad located at the south end of the farm. Use of the feed pad has primarily been discontinued. However, some feed has been temporarily stored on the feed pad while the feed storage runoff controls were under construction at the main farm. Hamlin Valley Farms does not intend to utilize this feed pad in the future. A closure plan and documentation of the abandonment will need to be submitted to the Department prior to permit reissuance. If Hamlin Valley Farms decides not to abandon the feed storage at Dan's farm, then an evaluation of the feed storage and the associated runoff controls will be included in the schedules section of the reissued permit.

### Animal Mortality Disposal

Hamlin Valley Farms owns an incinerator at the main farm which they use to cremate all mortalities on site.

### Ancillary Service Areas

Ancillary service areas and stormwater conveyances systems are well managed and maintained. No additional clean up or maintenance actions to the culvert outlet and the stormwater pond, where past feed storage discharges occurred, will be needed.



**Photo 23 (Left):** Looking west from culvert outlet toward the unnamed stream where past feed storage discharges had occurred. The water entering the adjacent stream was primarily clear. Some waste feed and cloudy water was still present around the culvert outlet.

## RECORDS REVIEW

Hamlin Valley Farms provided all the necessary records that are required to be retained on site and the farm is up to date on all permit schedule items.

## SUMMARY

### Areas of Concern

Hamlin Valley Farms completed a large number of overapplications of nutrients to various fields in fall of 2018. Many of the fields had overapplications of 50 to 100 pounds of Nitrogen per acre and some had overapplications of 100 to 200 plus pounds of Nitrogen per acre. Overapplications were documented in the farm's NMP update submitted to the Department on March 31, 2019, and was also confirmed on site. Hamlin Valley stated that rates for fall of 2019 have been significantly reduced to address the past overapplications. Hamlin Valley also explained that they have a new custom applicator and that their manure sampling procedure has been changed to better plan around actual nutrient values. The Department may determine enforcement action is necessary if overapplications of nutrients are not addressed or continue.

Hamlin Valley Farms does not have both a permanent MOL and MOS marker in all liquid manure storage facilities.

### Action Items

**December 6, 2019** – please submit the following:

1. Documentation of the installation of both a permanent MOL and MOS marker in all liquid manure storage facilities
2. Post construction documentation for the feed storage runoff controls submitted through the Department's ePermitting System

**April 3, 2020** – please submit a permit reissuance application through the Department's ePermitting System that includes the following:

1. 3400-025 Form (Livestock/Poultry Operation WPDES Permit Application) – complete section II for each site to be included in the permit
2. 3400-025A Form (Animal Units Calculation Worksheet) – complete both existing and proposed worksheets for each site to be included in the permit
3. 3400-025B Form (Nutrient Management Plan Checklist)

4. 3400-025C Form (Reviewable Facilities of Systems Checklist)
5. Soil Survey Map of the Production Site – submit a map for each site to be included in the permit
6. Labeled Aerial Map of the Production Site – submit a map for each site to be included in the permit
7. 180 Day Liquid Manure Storage Calculations & Supporting Documentation
8. 5 Year Nutrient Management Plan – include proposed headland stacking sites to be approved if solid manure stacking will be used in place of the feed storage area.

**June 1, 2020** – please submit the following:

1. The closure plan used to abandon all outdoor lots at Dan's farm and photo documentation that the abandonment has been completed.
2. The closure plan used to abandon the feed pad at Dan's farm and photo documentation that the abandonment has been completed.
3. Hamlin Valley's decision on using the slurry store for leachate and feed storage runoff.

#### Items for Next Permit

Schedule items for evaluations and necessary upgrades to the following facilities will be included in the schedules section of the reissued permit:

1. Dan's farm waste storage facility and associated transfer systems
2. Dan's farm outdoor lots and associated runoff controls (if not abandoned)
3. Dan's farm feed storage area and associated runoff controls (if not abandoned)
4. Main farm 1997 concrete waste storage facility
5. Main farm slurry store (if used for storage of manure or process wastewater)
6. Main farm feed storage area for use as a solid manure storage facility (if approved headland stacking sites or another approved solid manure storage are not used instead).

#### Substantial Compliance

Once the August 9, 2018 Notice of Violation has been closed out, Hamlin Valley Farms Inc will be in substantial compliance with the permit.